

## General

### Title

Physical functional health status: average percent change in patient functional status from initial to discharge visit among patients receiving outpatient rehabilitation services.

### Source(s)

CareConnections Outcomes System (formerly TAOS). [database online]. Portland (OR): Therapeutic Associates, Inc.; 1996- [accessed 2009 May 11]. [various].

## Measure Domain

### Primary Measure Domain

#### Outcome

The validity of measures depends on how they are built. By examining the key building blocks of a measure, you can assess its validity for your purpose. For more information, visit the [Measure Validity](#) page.

### Secondary Measure Domain

Does not apply to this measure

## Brief Abstract

### Description

This measure is used to assess the average percent change in patient functional status among patients receiving outpatient rehabilitation services as measured by the CareConnections Outcomes System Functional Index.

CareConnections Outcomes System is a system that measures the efficacy of intervention of rehabilitation (physical therapy and occupational therapy) services in the outpatient setting. Patient data collected on the first visit is compared to data collected on the last visit.

### Rationale

The CareConnections Outcomes System Functional Index is a quality improvement tool for therapists at both the micro (individual patient) and macro (overall quality management) level. At the individual patient level, the CareConnections Functional Index provides an objective measure of function for the therapist, assists the therapist in documenting progress toward goals, and helps justify the benefits of therapeutic interventions provided. The CareConnections Functional Index also helps therapists measure the quality of the services they are providing against other providers by providing a standard measure of function that can be used across large populations of patients. Aggregation of data from providers using the CareConnections Functional Index provides information that will allow therapists to implement quality management programs to improve the overall quality of treatments provided to patients.

## Primary Clinical Component

Physical functional health status; outpatient physical rehabilitation; musculoskeletal impairments

## Denominator Description

All patients with musculoskeletal impairments who complete both an initial and discharge CareConnections Outcomes System assessment form at a participating clinic

## Numerator Description

The average percent change in patient functional status from initial to discharge visit as measured by the CareConnections Outcomes System Functional Index

## Evidence Supporting the Measure

### Evidence Supporting the Criterion of Quality

One or more research studies published in a National Library of Medicine (NLM) indexed, peer-reviewed journal

## Evidence Supporting Need for the Measure

### Need for the Measure

Unspecified

## State of Use of the Measure

### State of Use

Current routine use

### Current Use

Internal quality improvement

# Application of Measure in its Current Use

## Care Setting

Ambulatory Care

## Professionals Responsible for Health Care

Occupational Therapists

Physical Therapists

## Lowest Level of Health Care Delivery Addressed

Individual Clinicians

## Target Population Age

Unspecified

## Target Population Gender

Either male or female

## Stratification by Vulnerable Populations

Unspecified

# Characteristics of the Primary Clinical Component

## Incidence/Prevalence

Unspecified

## Association with Vulnerable Populations

Unspecified

## Burden of Illness

Unspecified

## Utilization

Unspecified

## Costs

Unspecified

# Institute of Medicine (IOM) Healthcare Quality Report Categories

## IOM Care Need

Getting Better

Living with Illness

## IOM Domain

Effectiveness

## Data Collection for the Measure

## Case Finding

Users of care only

## Description of Case Finding

All patients treated at an outpatient rehabilitation clinic participating in CareConnections Outcomes System

## Denominator Sampling Frame

Patients associated with provider

## Denominator Inclusions/Exclusions

### Inclusions

All patients with musculoskeletal impairments who complete both an initial and discharge CareConnections Outcomes System assessment form at a participating clinic

### Exclusions

Non-English or Non-Spanish speaking patients who do not have an interpreter to communicate CareConnections questions

## Relationship of Denominator to Numerator

All cases in the denominator are equally eligible to appear in the numerator

## Denominator (Index) Event

Therapeutic Intervention

## Denominator Time Window

Time window precedes index event

## Numerator Inclusions/Exclusions

### Inclusions

The average percent change in patient functional status from initial to discharge visit as measured by the CareConnections Outcomes System Functional Index

### Exclusions

None

## Measure Results Under Control of Health Care Professionals, Organizations and/or Policymakers

The measure results are somewhat or substantially under the control of the health care professionals, organizations and/or policymakers to whom the measure applies.

## Numerator Time Window

Episode of care

## Data Source

Patient survey

## Level of Determination of Quality

Not Individual Case

## Outcome Type

Functional Status

## Pre-existing Instrument Used

Unspecified

## Computation of the Measure

## Scoring

Non-weighted Score/Composite/Scale

## Interpretation of Score

Better quality is associated with a higher score

## Allowance for Patient Factors

Unspecified

## Standard of Comparison

External comparison at a point in time

Internal time comparison

# Evaluation of Measure Properties

## Extent of Measure Testing

Content validity was established by a panel of experienced physical therapists who reviewed the instrument and determined that the items for each anatomical area appropriately measured the content domain. Further, factor analysis was performed on 100 questionnaires to confirm that items under each category evaluated the same anatomical area. Discriminate analysis was used to determine how well the instrument could classify patients into categories of anatomical involvement. In the entire sample of 100 patients, 76.54% were placed in the correct group by the discriminate function. Establishment of concurrent validity is being investigated. Test-retest reliability was evaluated for each item using an Intraclass Correlation Coefficient (ICC). Range of test-retest reliability was 0.69 to 0.96 with a mean ICC of 0.85.

## Evidence for Reliability/Validity Testing

Schunk C, Rutt R. TAOS Functional Index: orthopaedic rehabilitation outcomes tool. J Rehabil Outcomes Measure. 1998;2(2):55-61.

# Identifying Information

## Original Title

CareConnections (formerly TAOS) Functional Index.

## Submitter

Therapeutic Associates, Inc. - For Profit Organization

## Developer

Therapeutic Associates, Inc. - For Profit Organization

## Funding Source(s)

Unspecified

## Composition of the Group that Developed the Measure

Unspecified

## Financial Disclosures/Other Potential Conflicts of Interest

Unspecified

## Adaptation

Measure was not adapted from another source.

## Release Date

1996 Jan

## Revision Date

2009 Jan

## Measure Status

This is the current release of the measure.

This measure updates a previous version: Therapeutic Associates Outcomes System (TAOS). [database online]. Portland (OR): Therapeutics Associates, Inc.; 1996- [accessed 2005 Jan 20]. [various].

## Source(s)

CareConnections Outcomes System (formerly TAOS). [database online]. Portland (OR): Therapeutic Associates, Inc.; 1996- [accessed 2009 May 11]. [various].

## Measure Availability

The CareConnections Outcomes System is available to order from the [CareConnections Web site](#)

. The CareConnections Functional Index, Commonly Asked Questions, and Sample Reports are available for review.

For more information, please call (800) 219-8835, ext. 1118.

## Companion Documents

The following is available:

CareConnections functional index: patient worksheet. Portland (OR): Therapeutic Associates, Inc.; 2009 Apr 1. 2 p. This document is available in Portable Document Format (PDF) from the

## NQMC Status

This NQMC summary was completed by ECRI on January 20, 2005. The information was verified by the measure developer on February 15, 2005. This NQMC summary was updated by ECRI Institute on May 21, 2009. The information was verified by the measure developer on June 4, 2009.

## Copyright Statement

This NQMC summary is based on the original measure, which is subject to the measure developer's copyright restrictions.

Refer all questions pertaining to CareConnections Outcomes System to Therapeutic Associates, Inc. at (800) 219-8835; Web site [www.therapeuticassociates.com](http://www.therapeuticassociates.com) .

## Disclaimer

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